



# OLYMPIC ODYSSEY 2012

London 2012 will soon take its place once again in the glittering history of Olympic host cities. An epic event spanning 1,500 years, the Olympic Games represents the pinnacle of sporting endeavour, inspiring legendary athletic performances that many of us can only dream of.

The **Olympic Odyssey** will take us on a fascinating journey through Olympic history, starting at the birthplace of the games in the heart of ancient Greece, founded by the Greek god Zeus and his son Heracles. From Greek mythology and ancient ruins to the modern arenas built for Athens 2004, we shall retrace stories of the Olympics through time; their religious significance, their use as a platform for propaganda, and the venue for so many extraordinary sporting achievements. We finish our journey with the familiar London skyline, poised for our very own games in 2012. This fascinating journey of Olympic discovery is quite simply a unique and wonderful prelude to the 30<sup>th</sup> Olympiad in London.

## Itinerary

### Day One - Fly from London to Athens

A short transfer upon arrival to Nemea, west of Athens, famous from the Greek myths as home to the Nemean Lion, killed by Heracles. Here we take time to view the Stadium of Nemea, site of the ancient Nemea Games. *O/n Loutraki*

### Day Two - Journey to Olympia

We arrive in the ancient city of Olympia, home to one of the most important Greek Archaeological Museums and celebrated sanctuary of gods and men. Here we have ample time to explore and learn about the foundations, art and beauty of the history of the Olympic Games. *O/n Olympia*

### Day Three - Olympia to Athens

Travelling back to Athens, the journey will forge ancient with modern where you will take in many historical landmark sites of Athens. *O/n Athens*

### Day Four - Athens and the modern Olympics

Hosted in the Greek capital, the Olympic games of 1896 were held at the famous Panathenaic Stadium, still used to celebrate Greek national sporting triumphs today. We also visit the Olympic arenas of 2004 before our evening flight bound for London, host city for 2012. *O/n near London*

### Day Five - London Olympic Park (optional)

Venue for the next Olympiad, this special day can offer a unique insight into preparations for London 2012, with an opportunity to view the spectacular new Olympic Park.

### Our itineraries can be tailored to suit your requirements

Please contact us and we will be happy to discuss your group's interests and curriculum needs, so that we can deliver the right content and pace for your journey.

## Cost

### Cost includes

Experienced Wind Sand & Stars leader & local guides  
All local accommodation (2\* hotels and hostels)  
Full board (all meals)  
All transportation throughout the journey  
Comprehensive travel Insurance

### Costs excludes

Travel to UK airport  
Homeward travel from London  
Museum entry sites in Greece (c. 35 Euros)

Land arrangements from	£495
Flight	£150 - £200
Minimum Group Number	25
Free member of staff	1 per every 12 paying places

### Visa

A visa is not required for this itinerary, but may be needed for Non-EU Nationals. Please check with the Greek Embassy.

### ATOL Protection

The air holidays and flights in this journey are protected by the Civil Aviation Authority. Our ATOL number is ATOL 5474. For further details, visit the ATOL website at [www.atol.org.uk](http://www.atol.org.uk).



### BS 8848 Compliance

The operating procedures and controls that govern overseas ventures provided by Wind Sand & Stars Limited conform to BS 8848 (*Specification for the provision of visits, fieldwork, expeditions and adventurous activities outside the United Kingdom*). ENDORSED BY THE YOUNG EXPLORERS TRUST.

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